

helped to improve the education and health care of the world's nurses through the creation of the Center for International Nursing at Duquesne University in 1992. Her interests stem from a trip to Nicaragua, where she helped to develop a "sister school relationship" with the Polytechnic University School of Nursing. The Roberto Clemente Health Center, in Nicaragua, would not have opened without her help. Although much of her passion is devoted to Nicaragua, she has interests in all Latin American countries, which led to her receiving the "Pacem in Terris" (Peace on Earth) award from La Roche College.

Mary Kane Shatlock, the May recipient of the award, is a mother, a teacher, and a small businesswoman. She balances these three responsibilities very well, and still has time to contribute to her church's music program. She has raised four children. She has also been able to donate all of the proceeds from her business to charity. Ms. Shatlock has been able to teach and run her business even after her husband's passing. Her dedication to music and art has undoubtedly been passed on to her students, and her strength has been an inspiration to her children and grandchildren.

Even though Lorene Steffes has only lived in Pittsburgh for a year, she is certainly a worthy recipient of the June "Woman of Spirit" award. She is currently the president and CEO of Transarc Corporation, an IBM subsidiary. While still living in the Chicago area, Ms. Steffes was the executive sponsor of the Society of Women Engineers. Recently, she was appointed to the Pittsburgh High Technology Council Board of Directors. She also now serves on the Pittsburgh Disability Employment Demonstration Project for Freedom. This organization helps disabled individuals advance in technology positions. She and her husband are the proud parents of two children and have three grandchildren.

By tradition, there is usually only one recipient a month for the "Woman of Spirit" award. July's recipients are so interconnected, though, that it would be unfair to give the award to just one. The McGinnis Sisters—Bonnie, Sharon, and Noreen—are the owners of a small chain of specialty food stores that bear their name. The two branches have grown into one of the nation's top specialty food stores, with sales of more than 10 million dollars annually. The sisters began working in the stores when they were eight years old, and have since taken over the business from their parents. The sisters continue their parents' custom of giving, making substantial contributions to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and over 250 other charities. Aside from running the family business, the sisters are dedicated mothers.

Lisa Pupo Lenihan has been honored as the August 1998 "Woman of Spirit." She is the managing director of the law firm of Burns, White, and Hickton. Here, she became the first woman to head a medium-to large-sized law firm in Pittsburgh. She also donated her time to helping many causes, along with being the mother of three. She chairs a fundraising event at the Zoar Home, a treatment center for young women who are pregnant or have young children and are addicted to drugs or alcohol. She has served as the chair of the Board of Directors for ARCH (Artists Raising the Conscience of Humanity) Productions, Inc., which helps at-risk youth. She also start-

ed the Pro-Bono Legal Committee for the Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force. She also donates time to promote women in her field. Along with all these volunteer efforts, she and her husband have three children to raise.

Carlow College gave Phyllis Moorman Goode the September, 1998, "Woman of Spirit" award. Ms. Goode has been a vibrant member of both the arts community and the African-American community, and has tried to relate these actions whenever possible. She has chaired the Pittsburgh Foundation/Howard Heinz Endowment Multi-Cultural Arts Initiative, and is a member of the Junior League of Pittsburgh, the YWCA Liz Prine Fund Distribution Committee, and the Pittsburgh Playback Theater, among other things. She has also volunteered her time for education and teen pregnancy issues. Her commitments have earned her many honors in the City of Pittsburgh. She and her husband are currently raising one son.

Mr. Speaker, the women that named her are all great role models. They contribute different qualities, each of which make Pittsburgh a great place to live. With the Woman of Spirit award, Carlow College has called much-deserved attention to these women. The women I have spoken of have energy, enthusiasm, intelligence, compassion, and competence that is unmatched. I salute this year's Woman of Spirit award recipients and wish them the best at this year's gala and beyond.

#### IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMITH & OBY COMPANY

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Smith & Oby Company, a mechanical contractor in Cleveland, OH.

Smith & Oby Company is the oldest continuously operated mechanical and plumbing contractor in Ohio. For a century, Smith & Oby has unselfishly dedicated itself to improve conditions in the mechanical industry that have benefited all contractors and pipefitters.

In addition to improving conditions in the mechanical industry, Smith & Oby has diligently served as a civic minded company that has supported many community based organizations since its founding.

Smith & Oby Company has developed an indisputable reputation of quality, integrity and fairness which is recognized by the industry and the business community. For a century, their valued officers, staff and workforce have developed a respect by their peers that has allowed the Smith & Oby Company to prosper into the successful firm it is today.

My fellow colleagues, join the Mechanical Contractors' Association of Cleveland and myself in congratulating and honoring the 100th anniversary of the Smith & Oby Company.

#### INTERNATIONAL AIR ROUTE SALES

#### HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 10, 1998

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, airlines realize windfall profits, sometimes amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars, from the sale of international routes which they were granted, free of charge, by the Department of Transportation. This practice not only produces windfall profits; it also imposes substantial costs on the airline purchasing the route; these costs, in turn, must then be recaptured by higher fares. Moreover, the sale of international routes sometimes prevents DOT from awarding the route to the carrier which is best qualified and best able to serve the public.

Today, I am introducing legislation to prohibit this practice.

Under governing law, international routes are originally awarded on the basis of a public interest determination by the Department of Transportation, following an evidentiary proceeding in which all applicants for the route have the opportunity to present their operating proposals. However, once a route is awarded, DOT permits the incumbent airline to sell the route for substantial sums, sometimes amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars. DOT has been willing to approve these sales as long as a sale would not be seriously inconsistent with U.S. international policy.

The Department's approach has been to make this decision in a vacuum, without a comparative consideration of the proposals of other airlines which might be interested in the route. The effect of this policy has been that routes are frequently transferred to the largest U.S. airlines, which have the deepest pockets and are able to make the highest bid to the airline selling its routes.

This approach is bad public policy for several reasons. First, it takes an asset, which was originally given to the holder free of charge in the public interest, and allows it to be sold for the highest price. The American public is the loser because the new route holder will have to raise fares to recoup the cost of the route. Secondly, the sale is inconsistent with the original rationale under which the route authority was granted: that the carrier selected can best serve the interests of the American public. Relying on the highest bid means that, potentially, a better qualified applicant will be denied the ability to provide this service to the American public. The DOT policy of approving the sale of major routes, apart from mergers, began in 1986 when Pan American was allowed to sell its Pacific Division of United.

The policy of permitting routes to be sold has led to other disturbing results. Recently Northwest Airlines, pledged international route authorities as collateral to enable Northwest to draw down a \$2.08 billion line of credit syndicated by Chase Manhattan. The purpose of the draw down was to provide Northwest with sufficient funds to survive a strike until its employees agreed to Northwest's terms. I find it unacceptable for a company to use its international routes—granted in the public interest—to support its ability to prolong a strike that denies many Americans basic air service. In addition, there have been rumors that